

Zager and Eisen win national debate honors

By Ben Cohen

This year the MBA debate team has had spectacular success in tournaments all over the country, probably gaining more favorable recognition and publicity for the school than any other campus organization. The students who can claim the most responsibility for this are Steve Zager and Steve Eisen, whose record this year is one of the best in the country.

In the three most important tournaments in the country, those at Emory and Northwestern Universities and at the Bicentennial Forensics Tournament, they have placed second once and first twice. Steve Zager remarks, "When we first came on the circuit, no one had ever heard of MBA; now when they hear of us in California, they shudder." That statement, though delivered facetiously, is perfectly true. In fact, Zager and Eisen were recently invited to a tournament

at Georgetown University with only twelve other teams from across the nation; these teams were all hand-picked as the best.

Still, it has not always been this way. "I did a history report for Mrs. Carter in the eighth grade," says Eisen, "and she told Mrs. Ridgway that I made a good presentation. The next day when I got a math test back from Mrs. Ridgway, it had a note on it to 'see me.' She asked me if I had ever considered debating. I became interested, and I've been debating ever since." Zager had had slightly more experience: "When I was at Moore Junior High, I came in second in a city speech tournament in poetry. When I came here, I had the intention of doing poetry again; however, my good friends Eisen and Chazen were in debate, and I got interested, too."

The road to the top has not been easy. Zager and Eisen have been

debating for four years and debating as a team for three, something very few teams have done. They have learned most of the tricks of the trade in debate, and each one has also learned to anticipate most of his partner's responses. Observes Zager, "We are very balanced because I am loud and obnoxious, and Eisen is quiet and passive."

There can be no denying, however, that one of the main sources of their success is their willingness to work. Together they have compiled some ten thousand file cards with quotations relevant to debate. Steve Eisen feels that being near a major university library like the Joint University Library is a great advantage because it enables them to research a much larger body of literature. This is extremely important, especially with this year's topic: Resolved, that the development and allocation of scarce



Zager and Eisen hone debating skills.

world resources should be controlled by an international organization.

Some affirmative cases this year include blood, killer bees, food, energy of all kinds, fixed or floating monetary exchange rates, housing, Central American economic integration, disarmament, ocean mining, strip mining, fertilizer, drugs, debt servicing, transportation, health care, pollution control, and cigarettes. A good team must be able to dispute all the basic premises of the case (that there is a significant harm, that the present system is not acting to remedy it, that the present system is structurally unable to remedy the problem in the future), as well as the plan the affirmative team suggests (that the plan is unworkable, that the plan will not remedy the harm, that the plan is disadvantageous).

In addition, a debate team must be prepared to develop its own affirmative case. Zager and Eisen's

case concerns the dumping of sludge into the ocean. Thus far this year, they have lost only one affirmative round.

Even very extensive research, however, is not enough. Good debaters must attend workshops in the summer at top universities. Zager and Eisen attended a workshop at Northwestern University last summer; other MBA debaters attended workshops at Harvard, Wake Forest, and Emory Universities. Those workshops tend to be extremely arduous. They include research, topic analysis, and hours of debate. For three to five weeks, the debaters are immersed in the topic.

Even this again is not all. The amount of physical effort expended at a major tournament is impressive; Zager and Eisen estimated that they debated eighteen hours in two days at the Emory tournament.

Why do Zager and Eisen do it? "We've met some beautiful girls," they respond simultaneously.

The Bell Ringer

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February, 1976

All-Star card offers unique phenomenon

By Andy May

"So y'all come out to the Fairgrounds Coliseum this Wednesday night for one of the finest All-Star cards ever signed in this area. We'll have Tojo Yamamoto and Tommy Rich going against the rough, tough Interns and their manager Ken Ramey, plus some of the best midwest wrestlers in this part of the country. Don't forget, that's this Wednesday night at the Fairgrounds."

When, after sixteen years of exhortation, I finally heeded Nick Gulas' rasped advice, I discovered that wrestling at the Fairgrounds was very much as I thought it would be. The muddy parking lot was strewn with old cans of Pabst Blue Ribbon and Old Milwaukee; and though the night was cold, one sensed that the arena would be uncomfortably warm from a combination of a poor thermostat and a thousand sweaty bodies.

Entering the building, I found that, as I had suspected, a coat was quite unnecessary for the evening's entertainment. Taking a seat in the bleacher, I waited in tense anticipation for the excitement that was to come; and when, at last, the auditorium was full and the youthful vendors had sold the last of their Jackie Fargo autographed glossies, the resplendent oriental form of Mitsu Arakawa entered the ring. As he shed his silk robes, he was subjected to a shower of verbal abuse ranging from simple boos to impassioned cries of "Mit-

su is a dirty Nip." Unphased, he straightened his blue trunks and prepared himself to meet that towering black marvel, Bearcat Brown.

When the Bearcat emerged from the dressing room, he received a much more amiable welcome. Though black wrestlers were at one point relegated to their own division, they now participate on an equal basis with whites. (This I consider to be the most important piece of action that came out of the entire 1960's civil rights movement.) Bearcat, to the great delight of the crowd, flexed his muscles several times, revealing his powerful frame to the general public.

After being thoroughly searched by the referee, both wrestlers were O.K.'d and the match was set to begin in earnest. With the ring of the bell, the grapplers embarked upon the usual concatenation of headlocks, toe holds, and body slams that characterizes a typical All-Star event. From then on, excepting the time when Mitsu appeared to be looking for a chain inside his trunks, the spectacle was uneventful; and I turned my attention away from the ring into the bleachers.

The crowd at an All-Star Wrestling match is very different from that at a Vanderbilt Basketball game. While Vandy rooters tend

to act as a homogenous group, rising and falling as one, the wrestling audience is a set of personalities operating almost completely independently. While some in the group are subdued and nervous, reacting only by scratching or biting their fingernails, others are hyperactive, storming the ring at the least imaginable provocation.

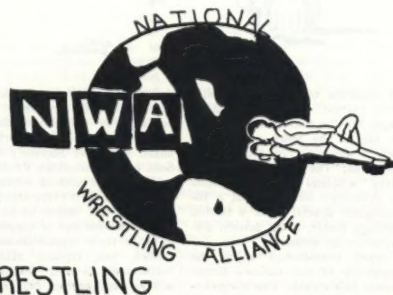
One gentleman at ringside, whom I perceived to be a regular at the matches, wore a Colonel Sanders suit and was surrounded by the distinct aroma of sour mash. During the bout between Tommy Rich, Tojo Yamamoto and the Interns, he was on his feet the entire time, pursuing, with umbrella in hand, Ken Ramey, the evil manager of the masked men. On the other extreme, the man directly to my left was close to collapse from trying to control himself. While the majority of the mass screamed about pulling hair and grabbing the trunks, he, dressed in typical blue collar clothing, shook violently and held his fingers between his teeth, apparently to keep from losing composure completely. An infinite range of opinion and modes of expression bridged the gap between these two examples, making a stereotyped wrestling fan difficult (if not impossible) to describe. Indeed, the wrestling crowd is not a crowd at all in the most common sense of the word in that there is no unifying factor such as social background or team allegiance.

My reflections upon the nature

of the group assembled, however, came to an abrupt end as the last of the preliminary bouts came to a close. After all, my real purpose in coming to the Fairgrounds was to get the autograph of the great Tojo Yamamoto, and the time for his appearance was drawing nigh. Tojo was scheduled to fight against the Interns with Tommy Rich as his partner. With pen in hand, I made my way toward the dressing room door in order to be as close as possible to my hero when he appeared. Suddenly, my dreams were answered as a hulking frame passed through the doorway. I pressed my way through the throng and finally got close enough to ask for a signature; but all my hopes were turned to dust when he grunted in a heavy accent, "Get out of my way, kid."

Though I would try again after each round, the result was always the same—that Japanese giant simply refused to sign my silly picture. Tojo and Tommy won the match, much to the chagrin of Ken Ramey and the Interns who were left bloody in the ring; but Tojo still refused to yield; and I returned home without my idol's signature.

Perhaps then, my trip to the Fairgrounds was a failure; but I think not, for as I stumbled out of the building into the wet darkness of the parking lot, I understood that wrestling, while not anything terribly complex and important, is a phenomenon that is unique in our over-sophisticated society.



Viewpoints

Federal spending poses problem

From the Right

By Andy May

There is, in our land, a Rural Rental Housing Loan Program which provides economically designed housing for the independent living of rural residents. The existence of this program is a wonderful fact to ponder. Its price closely resembles a nightmare; for you see, it is funded at a level of \$746 million a year, and the cost can only be absorbed by the average taxpayer.

Such is the dilemma which underlies all public assistance. It gives to those who have not; but it does so, invariably, at the expense of those who have. The proper resolution of this problem, as suggested by the U.S. government, is that the poor deserve the money more than the rich and middle class. In any case, the Federal budget indicates such an inclination. Since 1968, payments to individuals (HEW, HUD and Social Security) have risen from \$40 billion to \$135 billion, an increase of 241%, while all other outlays have risen only 32%.

These payments to individuals, which occupied 22% of the total budget in 1968, now account for 38%; and of the \$170 billion increase in spending that the last eight years has seen, such outlays

have made up 55%. These figures are amazing in their own right, but they become truly heartbreaking when considered in terms of the taxes which eventually must cover the bill. Tax receipts have risen by \$30 billion in the last two years alone, yet the Federal machine remains unsatiated mostly because public assistance payments continue to rise.

High spending cannot, in and of itself, be considered harmful; the disastrous effects occur only when one realizes the long-term economic stagnation and inflation which this spending causes. Again, the dilemma discussed above becomes important. Granted, it is great to give money and benefits to the poor, but at what cost to the taxpayer and to the economy as a whole? Inflation results when supply in a system exceeds demand. Payments to the poor, by their very nature, stimulate inflation by placing money in the hands of people who save nothing and spend 100% of their income.

Yet, the problem has still another dimension: when taxes rob the upper and middle classes, they can no longer invest their excess dollars. Without capital derived through investment, industry has no means by which to build new

factories or buy new machines. Consequently, our entire industrial plant is eventually threatened, and the nation's ability to produce declines.

While I do not pretend that the nation's difficulties can be explained in these few paragraphs, it is an inescapable conclusion that increased government interference in the economy, especially with regard to income transfer, is the underlying weakness of the system. Though short-term problems tend to make us lose sight of the facts, we cannot afford to ignore the present situation.

On the other hand, it would be a grievous error to allow the poor and aged to starve. It is vital to locate a workable mean in the tradeoff between social spending and economic health. Specifically, medical programs, housing programs, and Social Security need to be brought under control. Certainly, these acts will cause suffering, at least in the near future; but they must be made in order to stem the tide which is stagnating our economy. After all, what is needed is a cure for poverty, not a stop-gap approach. That surely is not to be found in the welfare state; for only through increased economic growth will poverty truly be eliminated.

THE BELL RINGER

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From the Left

By Ben Cohen

May's entire article is riddled with false logic and bad statistics. First he blames all other economic problems on the "heartbreaking" cost of public assistance programs, giving that cost as \$135 billion. HEW's budget makes up around \$120 billion of this, and what May does not tell us is that Social Security is 80% (\$96 billion) of HEW. Now these articles are on the cost of anti-poverty programs, and by no stretch of the imagination is Social Security an anti-poverty program. Social Security goes to people who have worked; the more one has worked, the more he gets. The people who get this money are precisely not the people on welfare.

To include the Social Security budget in a discussion of the costs of poverty programs is utterly absurd. Now to the real cost of

poverty programs. By my calculations, May now has \$40 billion left to play with, and I will not argue with him. Public Assistance in 1974 was budgeted at \$30.3 billion, and a \$10 billion increase in two years is not unusual in these inflationary times.

Now we can see if these expenditures, whether \$135 or \$40 billion, are inflationary or, more precisely, bad for the economy. If 100% spending is bad, why has the Ford administration been begging Americans for the past two years to spend our way out of the recession? Why did the government itself report that the chief cause of our slow economic recovery was our unsold inventories—too many goods? And finally, why, if spending causes recessions, did the American people save more of their incomes than ever before at the height of the recession in 1974? To blame recession on inflation is economically unsound; but to blame inflation on, of all things, poverty programs is grotesque or worse.

And so, the big question: Do poverty programs rob the economy, dooming our industrial way of life? If because they produce inflation, no; what little effect they have is basically positive. If because they rob the middle class, no again. All government expenditures "rob" the taxpayer. Nor do we hurt the economy by higher taxes on the wealthy. Taxing this money removes it from the market for growth, certainly; but also from the market for servants, Swiss banks, and third houses, and toward the task of recovering the \$20-40 billion in lost work and skills among the poor.

In sum, to blame our underfunded poverty programs for last year's recession is rubbish. We are spending less than one-third of what May reports on poverty, and that alone should discredit his article; but even that \$40 billion has a positive effect in stimulating our depressed economy. I could end here, the same length as May's article; but I choose to consider one factor he leaves out. What happens to people when poverty programs are "brought under control"? Behold public assistance in the '70's: the government's basic medical care program, Medicaid, pays one-eighth of its patient's expenses, according to HEW; the overall child-care program, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, excludes an estimated one-half of all children in poverty; while estimates on Welfare in general have gone so far as to state that for every one person on Welfare, five are eligible but do not receive aid.

These are the people who will be "brought under control" by the May Program. I wish him luck in his search for the golden mean between them and his fallacious, discredited figures, but I certainly do not envy him in his task.

Patriotic specials create "Buycentennial"

By Randy Gustafson

With the deluge of "Bicentennial Specials" jamming our news papers, magazines, radios, and televisions, one can easily deduct that our nation's 200th birthday is drawing near.

The circumstances are much the same as those of recent Christmas celebrations, where one can notice the passage of seasons just by the regularity of "Christmas Specials." In recent months, the sudden swarm of patriotic curios, services, and souvenirs has come to the forefront in today's advertising campaigns. Red, white, and blue has become a central color in fashion tastes: clothes, automobiles, household utensils and appliances, bicycles, and tricycles. Businesses are offering plates, mugs, and glasses decalated with George Washington, Sam Adams, and Betsy Ross's flag. Archibald Willard's Life and Drum trio, *The Spirit of '76*, which was produced for the last century's centennial celebration, enjoys a resurgence in popularity by being reproduced not only as a print but as plastic sculptures, weavings, even a mosaic.

Foreign countries are getting into the celebrations. Japanese craftsmen are creating Bicentennial radios, cameras, music boxes, telephones, and clocks. From Taiwan there are patriotic ties, T-shirts, costumes, and yo-yos. British airways advertises, "You gave us the business 200 years ago, America. Here's hoping you'll do it again."

The small 5 and 10 stores are not the only ones pushing the Bicentennial. Banks, museums, and major businesses are sponsoring art collections and historical exhibits in order to gain public trust, if not money. Some exclusive stores are



offering one hundred dollar Bicentennial Pens with a piece of wood from the original Independence Hall enclosed in plastic. A Bicentennial chess set which sells for one thousand dollars features George Washington and Betsy Ross at the king and queen on one side. The King and Queen of England occupy these positions on the opposing side.

For the more mundane person, a California plumbing company offers a red, white, and blue Bicentennial septic tank. The Tattoo Club

of America offers a fifty dollar chest tattoo of a Bicentennial eagle. On the somewhat baser side of life is *The Spirit of Seventy-Six*, a catalogue of erotic paraphernalia; "The Star-Spangled Bang Bang," a Miami hotel's nude salute to America's birthday; and a Bicentennial Special from a Boston massage parlor, a ten percent discount on all services.

Small businessmen enjoy the prosperity of our nation's Bicentennial celebrations. One shopowner said, "Anything under five

dollars sells like crazy." Bicentennial officials do not seem to be bothered by the commercial use of the Bicentennial. Robert Williams, Executive Secretary of the Sons of the American Revolution, said, "There's nothing wrong with making a buck. It's free enterprise." One fact that seems to be overlooked is what one is supposed to do with these reproductions, facsimiles, and replicas after the Bicentennial is over. Surely they will not last another one hundred years.

Winterim provides new exposure

By Mark Armour

Unlike the MBA school year which is divided into two unequal semesters of four and five months, the Harpeth Hall semester is much more symmetrical.

The first semester lasts four months and ends with mid-term exams coming before Christmas vacation. Then, after vacation ends, there is a one month interim period (cleverly termed Winterim) followed by a second four-month semester.

The Winterim program, now in its fourth year, is a program designed to break away from the traditional classroom method of teaching and to emphasize learning in more practical areas. In order to accomplish this goal, the program is divided into five different areas: mini-course offerings, travel, independent study, work/study, and remedial work. Except for a few limitations, each student can choose to participate in which ever program she likes.

Mini-course offerings, open only to freshmen and sophomores, include about 60 to 65 different selections. Some of the more interesting ones are fencing, self-defense, auto-mechanics, life-saving, riding, broadcasting, photography, ballet, yoga, oil painting, creative dancing, and guitar. Unlike the situation at MBA, however, the regular faculty members do not usually teach the courses. Instead, members of the community are hired for the one-month period.

The faculty still performs an integral function in the Winterim program by teaching remedial

courses. Under the remedial work plan, any student receiving less than a "C" average in her regular courses is required to take a remedial course. In this course the fundamentals of the particular subject are covered with the intent of evoking a clear understanding of the material and avoiding the necessity of summer school. Any student can choose to do remedial work, but no student is required to take more than two courses.

The third area of Winterim is the travel program, limited to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The purpose of this program is to familiarize the student with cultures, histories, and languages different from her own, regardless of foreign or domestic nature.

This year there were six trips, three foreign and three domestic. Foreign groups went to France, to England and Scotland, and to Mexico. Other groups went to Sweetbriar College in Virginia, to Washington, D.C., and to the Florida Keys.

The fourth area of Winterim is the independent study program. Under this program, juniors and seniors research and study an area in which they are interested for possible career work.

The work/study program is a program in which juniors and seniors work in the community as assistants or apprentices in a number of different occupations. The student chooses a specific career, and the faculty arranges specific jobs for her. Some specific options are journalism, medicine, teaching, banking, engineering, law, scientific research, social work, public

relations, advertising, interior design, veterinary medicine, computer programming, nursing, music, and art. Although she follows the same hours and does the same work as the regular employees, no student is paid for her work.

Winterim was researched by the faculty at Harpeth Hall for two years before it was initiated, and one of the major doubts about establishing the program was whether as much material could be covered in the major courses in spite of the absence of one month.

After careful deliberation the faculty concluded that it would take less time away from the academic program, because on Harpeth Hall's old schedule (the same one that MBA still uses), the students came back from Christmas vacation and had a couple of weeks, exams, and then a short break after exams. Therefore, not much new material was actually covered.

The advantages seem to outweigh



The fencing mini-course offers an unusual outlet.

any disadvantages Winterim at Harpeth Hall might have. It has provided some girls with a chance to investigate a career before going to college so that they would know

in what subject to major. It has provided some girls with a chance to travel, and it has given every Harpeth Hall student an opportunity for new and varied exposure.

Record review

Dylan's voice still outspoken

By Ike Simon

Probably the most impressive attribute of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band is their versatility. Their ability to play, and play well, folk, rock, and country music has always kept their music in demand. *Dream*, their latest album, epitomizes all of these facets.

The Southern rock sound ("Get out the fiddle, rosin up the bow") is exemplified in "Bayou Jubilee." In "Ripplin' Waters," the instruments mix well to produce a pleasing folk-country sound. John McEwen's banjo and Jeff Hanna's acoustic guitar mix nicely, and vocal harmony is also very pleasing on the Dirt Band's rendition of the title cut. The faster-paced "Mother of Love" also incorporates nice harmony to the overall effect ("I'm a child in a man's disguise"). J. D. Souther's "The Moon Just Turned Blue" is a country tune with some good Dobro. "Joshua Come Home," a pleasing Jamaican song, further

exemplifies the Dirt Band's versatility.

The only detracting factor on the album is the interspersing of ridiculous sound effects, such as the sea and the rain, which do not enhance the album's musical qualities. Though the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band has changed personnel throughout the years, their music still retains its magic.

Robert Palmer, an English newcomer to the rock scene, has recently come out with *Sneakin' Sally Through the Alley*. Hopefully, he won't become another Elton John, but this album has the potential to make him a superstar for the future. "Sailing Shoes" is a really fine tune incorporating electric guitar, bass, and organ. "Hey Julia" is another boogie tune with good background vocals and bass. The title cut again relies on background vocals and bass in describing a ticklish situation: "I better find somethin' to do with my time, but fact is, I just been caught." Probably the best cut on the album is "How Much Fun," in which piano, electric guitar, and bass are effectively mixed. "Through It All There's You," a laid-back but drawn out song, includes repetitious jamming between bass and organ with some electronic music in the background.

Palmer's music is very easy to listen to because he stays away from the loud noise of too many electric guitars and relies mostly on rhythm. Palmer is destined to become a star, and his music should become the rock sound of the future.

Bob Dylan, the superlative trendsetter in rock through most of its existence, has cut a very outspoken album, *Desire*. The best cut on the album, "Hurricane," concerns the true story of Rubin Carter, a black fighter, who was falsely convicted

of murder. Dylan shows his disgust at the persecution of the blacks: "When a cop pulled him over to the side of the road, just like the time before, and the time before that," and he feels "ashamed to live in a land where Justice is a game."

"Isis" is a song typical of Dylan, in which steady rhythm and background fiddle are utilized. "Mozambique" is a very nice tune with Emmylou Harris singing harmony: "Whispering a secret emotion, magic in a magical land." In "Oh Sister," the fiddle and harmonica complement each other well. Other noteworthy tunes are "Joey," the ballad of an outlaw ("What made them want to come and blow you away?"), and "Sara," dedicated to his lady ("So easy to look at, so hard to define").

Throughout this album, Dylan's voice is the most important instrument. He tells stories and asserts protests through the feeling in his voice, lyrics, and in his music. It is evident that this rock legend still has a few things to say.



Harpeth Hall girls work on gymnastic form.

Lanier sparks soccer success

By Justin Milam

During its short, four-year existence, the soccer program has proved to be surprisingly successful in both competition and student interest. Perhaps the mainstay of this program during the past three years has been John Lanier, the team's assistant coach.

Lanier became coach quite by accident. The soccer coaches during the team's first year were Mr. Drake and Whitney Kemper, who was also the coach of Vanderbilt's team, of which John was a member. When Kemper decided to quit his MBA job after one year, he asked Lanier if he wanted to take over. Lanier said yes and has been coach here ever since.

Coach Lanier views his MBA players as "a great bunch of guys. Also, they're fairly intelligent, so they know what I'm talking about

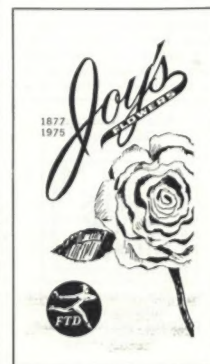
when they're out on the field. I think that helps a lot in coaching and trying to accomplish something."

During Lanier's first year here, MBA lost in the finals of the state soccer tournament; however, last year's team avenged that loss to become state champions. According to Coach Lanier, "Last year's team was just about like this year's team except we had Gerry Goertz, who got the offense going almost every time by his ability to dribble around his man. This year, we rely on passing which is really the way soccer should be played; however, if you've got someone like Goertz, who can beat his man consistently, it sets up a lot of opportunities." Also, this year's team, led by Boyd Gibbs, Les Coble, Dale Berry, and goalie Don Orr, relies on "good teamwork and intelligent play most of the time."

Although soccer is not growing in Tennessee as rapidly as across the rest of the country, Lanier believes soccer has, nevertheless, progressed at MBA during its brief existence. "It very definitely has made great strides. The first year I was here, it was pretty ragged. It's still ragged but not nearly as much so. Soccer as a whole is growing very rapidly across the country, but Tennessee unfortunately is not keeping pace."

Lanier is not sure about how long he will remain as a coach at MBA. "That depends on job circumstances—whether I get a job here, whether I get a job somewhere else, or whether I get a job period." The future status of Lanier at MBA aside, "one fact remains certain. There seems to be a direct correlation between John Lanier and successful soccer at MBA."

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Coble and Regen converge in Baylor game.

News capsules

Bowen Visits MBA

President Bowen of Princeton University and several associates held a question-answer discussion concerning the university with interested parents and prospective applicants from MBA and the Middle Tennessee area on January 28 in the Patrick Wilson Library. President Bowen was listed in *Time* as an educational leader with the potential to be a viable Presidential candidate.

Burch, Ralston Receive Grants

Steve Burch and Mike Ralston have received football grants-in-aid to Vanderbilt University. These scholarships include free tuition and free room and board, perhaps in the athletic dorm which the school plans to build for next year.

Burch, who was the first to sign with Vandy this year, hopes to find a vacant spot on the Commodore squad in either the offensive or defensive backfield. All-State end Mike Ralston also plans to continue playing his same position, tight end.

J.V. Basketball

Coach Tommy Demoss' Junior Varsity basketball team compiled a 5-13 record while future Varsity players gained valuable experience.

Lyle Beasley led the team in scoring while Allen Reason's scoring and rebounding also helped propel the team to its 5 victories. The season was highlighted by a one-point upset victory over Overton.

Freshman Basketball

Under Coach Jay Ramsey, the Freshman basketball team finished its season with an opening round loss in the city tournament after compiling a 6-8 regular season record. The team defeated BGA twice and won its game against Moore Junior High on a last-second shot by Andy Massey. Captain

Vance Wheeler and Co-captain Barry Ralston provided the leadership for the freshman team.

J.V. Soccer

The Junior Varsity soccer team finished its season with a 1-2 record. The Big Red opened the season with a 5-0 win over McGavock in which Jerry Mace scored two goals. After a 3-0 loss to Ryan, the team finished its season with a 4-1 loss at the hands of Castle Heights.

Freshman Wrestling

The Freshman wrestling team under Coach Anderson Gaither posted a 2-5 record for the season. The team was led by 135 pound Mark Frost, 103 pound Tim Warnock, and 112 pound Bobby Huddleston. Highlights for the season were victories over BGA and Hillwood.

Microbe Basketball

The Microbe basketball team has been the most successful team on the Hill this year. The team posted a 16-0 record heading into the HVAC tournament behind its outstanding defense combined with the scoring of Freddy Horton. The team's strengths also include the rebounding of Jimmy Griscom and Horton and the ballhandling of Nathan Phillips.

Microbe Wrestling

The Microbe wrestling team completed its season with a 3-2 record, the major victory being a 30-29 upset over Franklin Road Academy.

Teams meet mixed success

The MBA winter sports program was characterized by excellent records in soccer and wrestling and a rebuilding year in basketball. The presence of three MBA wrestlers and of the MBA soccer team in their respective state tournaments has highlighted the season.

Basketball

The 1975-76 varsity basketball team faced with one of the toughest schedules in recent years has compiled a 5-17 seasonal record heading into district tournament competition.

After an opening loss to Chattanooga McCallie, the Big Red bounced back to defeat archrival BGA 46-44 with junior Barry Duke pouring in 10 points. The squad suffered four consecutive losses before downing Father Ryan 51-47 in a hard-fought contest, with Mike Farmer connecting for 14 points, while Mike Ralston and John Hill added a dozen apiece.

The team steadily improved over the course of the season, showing excellent teamwork in a victory over a tough Hillsboro team and in avenging earlier losses to Cohn and Overton. Kirk Witt and Danny Newman carried the scoring load while Mike Ralston showed excellent strength on the boards.

Wrestling

Under the leadership of Coach Danny Buck, the grapplers compiled a 6-4 dual match record, MBA's first winning season in wrestling in three years. Opening the season strongly, the Big Red scored almost 200 points in the first four dual matches.

A disappointing loss to Father Ryan by only six points was balanced by good performances in the Bellevue, Overton, and Ryan Invitational Tournaments. Seniors Jerry Patterson, Freddy McLaughlin, Michael Huddleston, and Clay Whitson performed well throughout the season, all taking individual championships in at least one tournament.

The climax of the season occurred when three wrestlers went to the State Tournament. Patterson, McLaughlin, and Huddleston qualified with first, fourth, and third place finishes in the region.

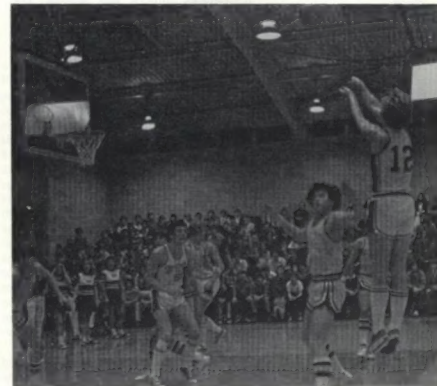
Soccer

The Soccer team returned from the State Tournament in Chattanooga with the third place trophy. The Big Red lost to State Champion Baylor in the semifinals but came back to defeat Ryan in the

consolation game for the second time this season.

Despite discouraging early and late season losses to Castle Heights and McGavock, the defending state champs completed their regular season with an impressive 8-2-3 record, tying Father Ryan, Castle Heights, and Baylor.

Notable wins were a doubleheader victory over St. Andrews and McCallie and a 2-0 effort against Father Ryan after the earlier 1-1 tie.



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